

New law prohibits persons from engaging in doing the work of a medical gas and vacuum systems verifier unless the person possesses a license issued by the board. Requires inspection and verification work to be conducted in person at the physical site of the medical gas and vacuum systems.

New law requires the board to issue a license to any person who qualifies under the board's regulations, who passes the required examination and who pays the required fees. Requires persons qualifying to have completed a course of training and requires the board to establish conditions for board approval of such training.

Existing law allows the board to charge reasonable fees and requires that fees assessed not exceed the amount required to maintain the board and pay the expenses of operating the board and enforcing the regulatory provisions. New law allows the board to charge reasonable examination, licensing, and renewal fees for persons engaged in the work or business of a medical gas and vacuum system verifier. New law provides a schedule of fees and charges indicating an increase in fees for journeyman plumbers and N.S.F. check charges and creating fees relative to medical gas and vacuum systems verifiers.

Prior law allowed the board to enjoin a person from engaging in doing the work of persons regulated by the board whenever it appeared that that person was violating the regulatory provisions. New law includes medical gas and vacuum systems verifiers in prior law.

New law defines a "medical gas and vacuum systems verifier" as a person who possesses the knowledge to test and verify the operation of medical gas and vacuum pipeline systems, subject to the professional qualifications standard established by the American Society of Sanitary Engineering.

Prior law allowed the board to, subject to the Administrative Procedure Act, revoke, suspend, or refuse to renew the license of a journeyman plumber, master plumber, medical gas piping installer, water supply protection specialist endorsement or any combination of such licenses. New law retains prior law but deletes the specific listings of licensees and allows the board to act upon any license or endorsement it issues.

Prior law allowed for enumerated and specific grounds for revocation. New law retains prior law and allows for lesser disciplinary action by the board. Includes in the grounds for revocation or lesser disciplinary action, falsification of material required to be submitted to the board including but not limited to insurance, work, training or experience verifications and the habitual performance of work as a medical gas installer or medical gas and vacuum systems verifier not in compliance with regulations of the state fire marshal or related local governmental codes.

Effective upon signature of governor (July 9, 1999).

(Amends R.S. 37:1361(A), 1371, 1373(A), 1378(A)(intro. para.), (2), (3), and (8), and (B); Adds R.S. 37:1367(H), 1368(I), and 1377(H))